Amendments to the Claims

1-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) A method of initiating a push-to-talk (PTT) communication session between an initiating mobile station and at least one terminating mobile station, the method comprising:

the initiating mobile station receiving an initiating user's speech signal and buffering the initiating user's speech signal in a mobile station buffer;

while buffering the initiating user's speech signal, the initiating mobile station working to establish an initiating RTP leg with a PTT server;

the initiating mobile station buffering the initiating user's speech signal until the initiating RTP leg is established;

in response to establishment of the initiating RTP leg with the PTT server, the initiating mobile station transmitting the initiating user's speech signal from the mobile station buffer via the initiating RTP leg to the PTT server;

the PTT server receiving the initiating user's speech signal and buffering the initiating user's speech signal in a PTT server buffer;

while buffering the initiating user's speech signal, the PTT server working to establish a terminating RTP leg with a terminating mobile station; and

in response to establishment of the terminating RTP leg with the terminating mobile station, the PTT server transmitting the initiating user's speech signal from the PTT server buffer via the terminating RTP leg to the terminating mobile station.

19. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the initiating mobile station working to establish the initiating RTP leg with the PTT server comprises the initiating mobile station sending a SIP INVITE to the PTT server.

20. (New) The method of claim 18, wherein the PTT server working to establish the terminating RTP leg with the terminating mobile station comprises the PTT server sending a SIP INVITE to the terminating mobile station.